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Lori Gula

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UNH Police Chief Graduates from FBI National Academy

Nicholas Halias is only student from New Hampshire in his class

By [Lori Gula](#)
UNH News Bureau

February 14, 2002

DURHAM, N.H. -- The hit TV show "Survivor" has nothing over the FBI National Academy. Just ask University of New Hampshire Police Chief Nicholas Halias, who was among 269 law enforcement professionals from 34 countries to graduate from the academy in December.

He lost 16 pounds, four pants sizes and five percent of his body fat. "The physical part was challenging. I'm not a spring chicken anymore," says Halias, 55, who completed a 9.8-mile run with a Marine Corps obstacle course to graduate.

The 10-week program, however, gave Halias much more than a physical workout. Designed for chiefs of police and high-ranking officers, the prestigious program in Quantico, Va., provided him the latest training techniques and information on a range of subjects, including contemporary legal issues that face law enforcement executives, police and mass media relations, computers for managers, stress management and forensic science.

Since 1935, more than 35,000 people from around the world have graduated from the academy.

Though Halias was the only New Hampshire officer in his class -- and one of three from a university police department -- he joins a growing group of local graduates. The Durham and UNH police departments have five academy graduates, he says.

"That's unheard of in a small-town department," he

adds.

The program requires students to relocate to Virginia for 10 weeks, a challenging situation for many families but one that was even more so for Halias and many of his classmates, as their session started just weeks after the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, running from Sept. 30 to Dec. 7.

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